

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT APPROVAL



STATE BOARD MEETING DATE April 28, 2014

SUBJECT: Move On When Ready – Standard Diploma

SUBMITTED BY: _____

MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW: _____

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Arizona Move On When Ready (MOWR) initiative is a high school education reform designed to increase student academic achievement to national and international levels, and to prepare all students for college and careers. The Move On When Ready legislation passed in 2010 and 2011 provide a framework for an education model that enables students to advance in their educational career based on demonstrated learning instead of seat time. Key provisions include the establishment of the Grand Canyon High School Diploma, a performance-based high school diploma available to students who demonstrate they are college and career ready, and the implementation of Board Examination Systems, which are coherent and aligned instructional systems set to national and internationally benchmarked academic standards that are designed to prepare students for success in college and careers.

Pursuant to Board rule R7-2-315.01(F)(1), a student who remains in a board examination system curriculum through grade twelve and does not pass the board examination may graduate with a standard diploma provided that the student meets the following requirements:

1. The student has passed the Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards assessments in mathematics and English or received a sufficient score as determined by the Board on the ACT, SAT, or an approved board examination in mathematics and English.
2. The student has earned at least 22 credits and has passed a Board-approved sequence of courses within the board examination system curriculum.

To assist the Board in identifying sufficient scores on approved board examinations in mathematics and English for the purpose of fulfilling the assessment requirement for the standard diploma, exam equivalency scores were identified through technical work completed by Stephen Schilling, an assistant research scientist and psychometrician, and Paul G. Perrault, research investigator, both at the Institute for Social Research's Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan. The exam equivalency scores were established for Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS) examinations and the end-of-course assessments utilized in the Move On When Ready (MOWR) initiative: ACT's QualityCore and the University of Cambridge's International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE).

The Center for the Future of Arizona is bringing for recommendation before the State Board of Education exam equivalency scores and the method for awarding a standard diploma to students who may require this option in order to graduate from high school. The rigor of the proposed program of study for the standard diploma is equal to or greater than the rigor of the traditional

pathway to a high school diploma. The proposal would apply to students who graduate through 2016. The proposal provides a rigorous and needed mechanism for students working to demonstrate college and career readiness within the MOWR performance-based education model the ability to earn a high school diploma.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: [☐] INFORMATION [X] ACTION/DESCRIBED
BELOW:

1. That the Board adopts the proposed AIMS equivalent scores for the following assessments:
IGCSE English First Language
IGCSE Mathematics
QualityCore English 10
QualityCore Algebra 1
QualityCore Geometry
2. That the Board adopts the proposed method for awarding a Standard Diploma to Move On When Ready students who require this option

ATTACHMENTS: YES [X] NO [☐]